

DEDHAM BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
JUNE 17, 2015

In Attendance:

Dr. Sarah Rosenberg-Scott, Chairperson
Leanne Jasset, B.S.P., RPH, Vice Chairperson
Jason Brogan, MSM, Member
Catherine Cardinale, Health Director
Joan Conway, Administrative Assistant

Dr. Scott called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. The first order of business is to accept the minutes of April 1, 2015. Jason made a motion to accept the minutes of April 1, 2015 Leanne seconded Dr. Scott asked all in favor aye opposed none. Minutes accepted. Next are the minutes of May 13, 2015 Leanne made a motion to accept the minutes Jason seconded Dr. Scott asked all in favor aye opposed none minutes accepted. Next is the open discussion there is no one present for open discussion. Dr. Scott said she would like to bring an up-date to the board on the Spectra Pipeline Project. We were invited to send a representative to the Board of Selectmen's Executive meeting, I attended that meeting and after a thorough review of a lot of the work that has been done to date on this specific project including the FERC which is the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission report about this specific project as well as reviewing previous data about other projects in the medical and public health literature presented my opinion on behalf of the board that while there may be some theoretical concerns about health and safety there is no actual data about an enclosed natural gas pipeline running through any public health spaces including both on personal and public health safety residential commercial or other public spaces. So it is my opinion on behalf of the board that there is not legal or medical ground to stand on to oppose this project at this point. Is there anyone here members of the board that would like to speak to this right now? There is no one from the public here to comment though the Board of Health is always open to further comments on this matter in the future by request. Leanne suggested that if there are any residents that have data that is contrary to our findings that they are always welcome to share it with us. Jessica Porter of 4 Miller Street appeared at this time after the statement by Dr. Scott she stated she was very concerned about the safety of the pipeline because it abuts residential neighborhoods. Usually they run in more rural area but Dedham and West Roxbury are heavily populated. 70% of the residential impact is in Dedham and West Roxbury. Because it is fracked gas there is a higher percentage of methane. I have read about asthma and nose bleeds and some serious health effects and I don't know the science enough to understand how it works but it is going to be right behind my house and neighborhood with a ton of kids. My lungs are important to me too and not just the children's lungs and I would love it if you would really look into it and have a hearing. Leanne explained that we just had the discussion and that Dr. Scott was invited to the Board of Selectmens meeting where it was discussed. Dr. Scott said it is unfortunate that we did not have more of this conversation initially when the Town signed up for this. It is interesting because this is a completely enclosed pipeline from a medical standpoint there are not concerns of emission risks and when you look at the medical data there are concerns about what you are talking about at the site where the gas is extracted from, the fracking site. There is a preliminary report that there may be some health issues there. There is insufficient data about looking at the rest of the pipeline certainly at neither compression stations which there will not be here nor metering stations. There is not the medical data to support actual risk at this point. Ms. Porter wanted to make two points one that she was recently reading a report from Ed Markey's office that there is more gas leaks in greater Boston there is more gas

being lost than is coming through this pipeline. I understand it is an enclosed pipeline but I don't understand how the technology is that much better than those that are leaking. I also want to say I do not think there is any harm in the board holding a hearing. It would show the town is doing everything it can it would help put people at ease if you could show there is no risks as opposed to Spectra because I don't believe them. You have nothing to lose by holding a hearing. Leanne said that we just made that statement that we are always open and if there are any people in our community who would like to gather for a community meeting we are always open. Ms. Porter stated that what the Selectmen have learned is that they should have organized that community meeting earlier. So rather than having me or someone else organize that whether it is call a hearing or community meeting if you guys put it on it will send a strong statement. I would urge you to do that and appreciate you letting me walk in and speak. Dr. Rosenberg-Scott stated that we would like everyone's opinion and to be heard and be able to disseminate our views on it is as well is important. We have been contacted by a few community members and we were thinking people may show up tonight and so we were preparing to have some more conversation about this. Thank you for your comments and we will take it under advisement and talk as a board as what the next steps will be. Leanne stated that we need to address a community meeting moving forward and Cathy will look into it.

Directors Report

Dr. Scott asked what has happened in the last month. Cathy said we are in the process of looking for a new nurse. The position will be full time in July and we are down to two finalists. Hopefully we will have an answer within the next week. Lee and I spent the afternoon at the Farmers Market today it opened today. We had to ask the manager of the market to have two vendors leave. One was operating without a license and one didn't give me the complete information on transporting his product. I will be e-mailing the market that neither one can attend until the licenses are complete. There are quite a few vendors; there are 21 vendors and 3 farmers. Dr. Scott asked what the other vendors are. Cathy said they are selling jams, jellies, pasta, sea food, and candy and bakery items there is food sampling and food out and it is a disaster waiting to happen. Two vendors were asked to put their food samples away because they were doing it completely wrong. I am wondering if we should look into putting a cap on the number of vendors we license. Their argument is that the farmers are in competition selling the same product and now we have 4 bakers 5 spice people. Dr. Scott said it sounds like the existence of the market provides a certain amount of work and follow up needed on behalf of us for inspectional services. Cathy said she and Lee would need to go back this coming Wednesday because of the issues. Dr. Scott said she thinks farmers markets are not just about farms but local fresh offerings and I don't know that it is our place to say what they can and cannot sell. But the amount of work that it takes from us to certify that it is safe is something that we can reasonably discuss and then it is up to them to figure out how many farmers, bakers they want to have. Cathy said that is what she is thinking there were 21 vendors and a few didn't come this week so we are up to about 24 vendors. Can we say here are 15 licenses and you pick who you want. Jason asked if there is another type of license they could get. Cathy said they go to the farmers market for their space and then we issue a license to sell their product. Dr. Scott asked if Cathy has addressed her concerns with, Amy and Greg, the people running the market and she said she has. Dr. Scott said we need to see if we can cap the number of vendors so that we can safely monitor all of the vendors that are there. Jason said do we want to cap it or is there a way to implement some sort of financial incentive if over X number of vendors they will have to pay an additional fee in order to accommodate the additional inspections. Leanne asked how we compare to surrounding towns by number of vendors. Cathy said she will check. Cathy said the towns have been after the state to put their foot down on what they markets can and cannot sell. It is all regulated between DCR and ? Dr. Scott said we have time to get some statistics

over the next month and get a sense of what the surrounding towns have in number of vendors and how they manage them. Also Dr. Scott asked that Cathy and Lee track how much time they spend there while working on these issues while working on this over the next month. And have it on the agenda for next month. Cathy said we should also look at the fee for the license for the market.

Cathy said Egg and Thai is almost ready. The taco restaurants we have received an application from them and since then we have not heard from them. I understand they are waiting on architectural plans. Papa John's is in construction. We have had a few quarantines dogs and cats. Diseases we have three reportable diseases that I am in the middle of investigating them. Food inspections are going well. Right now we are very busy with pools and camps.

Jason asked if there is any update on the gas station on Washington Street. Cathy said we will receive a report from Department of Environmental Health when it is ready. I did get a call from an attorney looking for information about tying into town sewer which is what they will have to do.

Jason also mentioned that Pastor Jim Butler of St. Luke's is interested in having a health fair in the fall and wondered if the health department nurse could be involved. Cathy said yes we could help with that.

The members decided that the next meeting would be July 22, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

With no further business to discuss Leanne motioned to adjourn the meeting Jason seconded the motion and Dr. Rosenberg-Scott asked all in favor aye opposed none the meeting was adjourned at 7:02p.m.

Dr. Sarah Rosenberg-Scott, Chairperson